

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANAMA 01342 251818Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 L-03 STR-04 TRSE-00 SP-02
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 AID-05 IGA-02
/061 W

-----088691 251822Z /41

R 251555Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA BAHRAIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4819
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI UAE
AMEMBASSY AMMAN JORDAN
USINT BAGHDAD IRAQ
AMEMBASSY CAIRO EGYPT
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS SYRIA
AMEMBASSY DOHA QATAR
AMEMBASSY JIDDA SAUDI ARABIA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT OMAN
AMEMBASSY SANA YEMEN
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI LIBYA
USDOC WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, PFOR, EALR, BA

SUBJECT: ARAB BOYCOTT: POSITIVE CERTIFICATION

REF: MANAMA 1219

1. ON JUNE 22, AMBASSADOR AND ECON/COMMERCIAL OFFICER
MET WITH GOB MINISTER OF FINANCE AND NATIONAL ECONOMY,
IBRAHIM ABDULKARIM, TO REVIEW A NUMBER OF ECONOMIC ISSUES.
AMONG THEM WAS THE STATUS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACCEPTANCE
OF POSITIVE CERTIFICATIONS AS DESCRIBED REFTEL.

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2. WE MADE POINT TO MINISTER THAT CHANGE IN CERTIFICATION
PROCEDURES FROM NEGATIVE TO POSITIVE OVER THE PAST SIX
MONTHS HAS BEEN PROCEEDING SMOOTHLY EXCEPT IN TWO CASES OF
WHICH WE WERE AWARE. HE WAS INSTANTLY INTERESTED TO KNOW
WHAT THE EXCEPTIONS WERE AND, AS PER REFTEL, WE DESCRIBED
WHAT WE UNDERSTAND TO BE THE HESITANCY OF BRITISH BANKS
(CHARTERED AND BRITISH BANK OF THE MIDDLE EAST) TO ACCEPT

POSITIVE CERTIFICATIONS. WE NOTED, IN PASSING, THAT ALL OTHER LOCAL COMMERCIAL BANKS HAVE MADE THE SWITCH TO POSITIVE CERTIFICATIONS. MOST IMPORTANT IN THIS REGARD WAS THE SHIFT OF THE NATIONAL BAND OF BAHRAIN IN FEBRUARY. SECONDLY, WE NOTED THAT RECENTLY THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH HAD ISSUED TENDERS FOR IMPORTANT X-RAY EQUIPMENT AND THAT GENERAL ELECTRIC HAD FELT IT COULD NOT COMPLY WITH THE NEGATIVE REQUIREMENTS IN THE TENDER DOCUMENTS (STATE 128266). WE SUGGESTED THAT THE MINISTRY WAS PROBABLY SIMPLY USING OUTDATED FORMS. MINISTER UNDERTOOK TO INFORM MINISTER OF HEALTH PERSONALLY OF CHANGE IN REQUIREMENTS.

3. ON BOTH POINTS, THE BRITISH BANKS AND THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH, THE MINISTER STATED THAT HE WOULD LOOK INTO THE SITUATIONS AND TAKE NECESSARY ACTION. ON PAST PERFORMANCE, WE EXPECT THAT HE WILL DO SO.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BOYCOTTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 25-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation History:
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Subject: ARAB BOYCOTT: POSITIVE CERTIFICATION
TAGS: ETRD, PFOR, EALR, BA, (ABDULKARIM, IBRAHIM)
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